

IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please amend the claims in accordance with the following LISTING OF CLAIMS wherein the amended claims are indicated as "original", "currently amended", "cancelled", "withdrawn", "new" "previously presented", or "not entered" as the case may be. In accordance with the Rules, the text of cancelled and not entered claims is not presented.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A method of increasing the leverage impact force obtainable with a baton having an elongated hand-graspable generally cylindrical handle defining the longitudinal axis of the baton and having a proximal end and a distal end, said method including the steps of:

providing a leverage end cap having a unitary body defining an enlarged proximal end knob, a generally hour-glass shaped annular groove contiguous to said end knob and having a minor diameter substantially smaller than the end knob, and a generally cylindrical distal end contiguous to said groove and having an external diameter substantially the same as the diameter

of the baton handle and greater than the minor diameter of said groove, said distal end defining means for releasable attachment to the proximal end of the baton handle;

attaching the leverage end cap to the proximal end of the baton so that the end cap is generally axially aligned with the baton;

grasping the baton such that the little, or pinky, finger of the user's baton-holding hand is received in and wraps about the annular groove of the leveraged baton cap such that the end knob abuts the hand adjacent the little finger with at least one of the remaining fingers of the hand wrapped about the baton on or adjacent the end cap; and

maintaining said grasp throughout use of the baton.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, including the step of providing cooperative threadings within the leverage end cap and on the proximal end of the baton such that the baton and end cap can be releasably and rotatably connected.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) A method for increasing the leverage force obtainable with an elongated baton having a generally cylindrical handle defining a longitudinal axis and opposite proximal and distal ends with the proximal end enabling gripping in the palm of a user's hand, said method comprising:

providing a leverage end cap having a unitary body defining a longitudinal axis and having a first end of a transverse cross section of substantially similar size to the transverse cross section of the proximal end of the baton handle, said first end including means for releasably securing it to the proximal end of the baton in substantially axially aligned relation

therewith, said leverage cap having an opposite second end defined by an enlarged knob having a greater peripheral size than said first end, said cap having a circumferential groove of generally U-shaped concave profile between and contiguous to said first end and said knob end and having a minor transverse cross-sectional area substantially less than the cross-sectional area of said first end,

securing the first end of the leverage end cap to the proximal end of the baton, and gripping the leverage end cap with one's hand such that the little finger of the hand is received within the circumferential groove and at least partially wraps the groove so that the knob engages the surface of the hand adjacent the little finger and prevents slippage of the hand in the direction of the knob and at least the first finger of the user's hand encircles the proximal end of the baton handle whereby to create an extended lever fulcrum at the little finger when manipulating the baton to impact an object.

21. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 20 wherein the step of securing the first end of the leverage cap to the proximal end of the baton includes connecting said first end of the cap to the baton by a threaded connection.

22. (Cancelled)